

Serial No. 09/901,878

Attorney Docket No. LX00071

REMARKS

Claims 1 through 53 are pending in this application. Claims 6 through 53 are hereby canceled without prejudice or disclaimer and, thus, claims 1 through 5 remain. In addition, claim 1 is hereby amended.

Claims 1 through 5 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph. In particular, the language "the predetermined screen area" of claim 1, line 6, lacks clear antecedent basis. Accordingly, reference to the handwriting recognition circuitry in claim 1 is hereby relocated to a subsequent part of the claim so that it follows the initial reference to the "predetermined area". Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, are respectfully requested.

Claims 1 and 3 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,367,453 to Capps, et al. ("Capps, et al. patent"). Also, claims 2 and 4 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over the Capps, et al. patent in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,682,439 to Beernink, et al. ("Beernink, et al. patent"), and claim 5 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over the Capps, et al. patent in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,754,686 to Harada, et al. ("Harada, et al. patent"). In rejecting the claims, the above Office Action also references U.S. Patent No. 4,972,496 to Sklarew ("Sklarew patent").

Claim 1 as amended provides a predetermined area of the screen less than the predetermined size of the screen on which handwriting is recognized in which the predetermined area being solely provided at a particular location of the screen and configured to display

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handwritten input. Thus, amended claim 1 provides a handwriting input area that displays handwritten input and, yet, is restricted to only one position of the screen.

In contrast, the Capps, et al. patent, the Beermink, et al. patent, the Harada, et al. patent, and the Sklarew patent, independently or in combination, do not describe or suggest a handwriting input area that displays handwritten input and is restricted to a single position of the screen, as required by amended claim 1. The Capps, et al. patent and the Beermink, et al. patent describe write-anywhere devices in which the handwriting input areas are not restricted to a single position of the screen. Likewise, the Harada, et al. patent and the Sklarew patent describe similar devices in which a handwriting input area may be designated (see FIG. 19) but it is not restricted to a single position of the screen. Accordingly, amended claim 1 distinguishes patentably from the Capps, et al. patent, the Beermink, et al. patent, the Harada, et al. patent, the Sklarew patent, and any combination of these patents.

Claims 2 through 5 depend from and include all limitations of independent claim 1 as amended. Therefore, claims 2 through 5 distinguish patentably from the Capps, et al. patent, the Beermink, et al. patent, the Harada, et al. patent, the Sklarew patent, and any combination of these patents for the reasons stated above for amended claim 1.

In view of the above, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections of claims 1 through 5 are respectfully requested.

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CONCLUSION

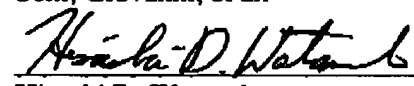
No amendment made was related to the statutory requirements of patentability unless expressly stated herein. Also, no amendment made was for the purpose of narrowing the scope of any claim, unless Applicants have argued herein that such amendment was made to distinguish over a particular reference or combination of references.

Please charge any fees associated with, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 50-2117.

It is submitted that the claims clearly define the invention, are supported by the specification and drawings, and are in a condition for allowance. A Notice of Allowance is respectfully solicited. Should the Examiner have any questions or concerns that may expedite prosecution of the present application, the Examiner is encouraged to telephone the undersigned.

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Respectfully submitted,
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 05/27/03
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